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Whitehall, May 30.

CAptain Delavall being ſent Expreſs from Barcelona by his Excellency the Earl of Peterborow, arrived here this Day, and brings the following Advices.

Barcelona, May 12. N. S. The Engliſh and Dutch Men of War commanded by Sir George Byng joined thoſe under the Command of Sir John Leake the firſt Inſtant in the Bay of Altea. The 3d they were joined by Commadore Walker with ſeveral Men of War, and divers Tranſport-ſhips; ſo that the Fleet conſiſted of 37 Engliſh and 13 Dutch, in all 50 Ships of the Line of Battle, beſides 8 Frigats, Fire-ſhips, Tranſports and other Veſſels. The 7th the Fleet was off of Taragona, where the Earl of Peterborow joined us with divers Barks, on board which were 1400 Land Forces. His Excellency went on board the Prince George, and hoiſted the Union Flag on the Main-top. The 8th in the Morning we came off of Cape Montjuich, and about Noon Anchored in Barcelona Bay, to the unexpreſſible Joy of the Inhabitants of this Place, who were hard preſſed by the Duke of Anjou's Army. The French Fleet under the Command of the Count de Toulouſe, upon the Approach of the Confederate Fleet under his Excellency's Command, retired the Night before.

The French had been beſieging this Town 35 Days. Their Army in the beginning of the Siege conſiſted of about 20000 Men, of which they have loſt 5000, by the Aſſaults they made upon Fort Montjuich, by the Sallies and the Fire from the Place, by the Skirmiſhes with the Miquelets that lay in the Hills, by Sickneſs, and by Deſertion. The Garriſon, when the Enemy ſate down before it, was not above 800 ſtrong, it having not been apprehended that the Enemy would have ventured upon this Siege without firſt having taken Lerida or Girona; the Breaches we had made were not yet quite repaired, and Fort Montjuich was in the ſame Condition as when we poſſeſſed our ſelves of it: But the King of Spain's great Magnanimity, Reſolution and Courage, and that gracious and eaſy Deportment, whereby he has entirely won the Hearts of his People, ſupplied all Defects. His Majeſty ſhewed no Concern but for the Danger of this City; and inſtead of taking any Meaſures to ſecure his own Perſon, uſed the utmoſt Diligence to get Reinforcements, and to ſet the Inhabitants to work, encouraging them, by his Example, to make a vigorous Defence. The Earl of Peterborow with great Expedition brought between 2 and 3000 Men from Valentia, of which he threw 7 or 800 into the Town by Boats. The Garriſon of Girona had likewiſe the good Fortune to get in; and great Numbers of Miquelets from all Parts did the ſame. My Lord Peterborow, with thoſe who could not get into the Place, poſſeſſed himſelf of the ſtrong Poſts in the Hills about the Enemy's Camp; and the Miquelets ſecured all the Avenues by which Proviſions might be brought to the Enemy; and this was done ſo effectually, that moſt of the Letters and Couriers that went and came between their Camp and Madrid fell into our Hands; ſo that at laſt they were forced to diſpatch a Frigat to Alicant with every Packet they had occaſion to ſend away. The Garriſon being reinforced, as is before mentioned, amounted to about 3000 Foot, and between 4 and 500 Horſe, of which 600 Engliſh were put into Fort Montjuich. The Enemy began with attacking this Fort, which they expected to have carried Sword in Hand; but my Lord Donnegal, who commanded there, made ſo good a Defence, that the Enemy being twice repulſed with conſiderable Loſs, thought fit to proceed with greater Circumſpection, made regular Approaches, raiſed upon ſeveral Batteries above 20 Pieces of Cannon againſt it, and thus ſpent 22 Days in taking a Place which the Earl of Peterborow had taken in Four. During this Attack on the Fort the Breaches of the Town were all fully repaired, the Works were put into a good Condition, and a great many Cannon were mounted, both the Garriſon and Burghers outvying each other, in doing what was neceſſary for the Defence of the Place: The King's Preſence and Example gave Life and Vigour to the whole, who with great Intrepidity often ſhewed himſelf in thoſe Places where was moſt Danger. Nor can one ſufficiently commend his Majeſty's Reſolution in the greateſt Extremities, his conſtant Application to direct every thing that was neceſſary to be done; and above all, his wonderful Temper, and thoſe engaging ways, by which he gained the Affection of his People. During the Siege there happened a Mutiny, in which the People killed ſome of their Magiſtrates. The King in theſe Diſorders came out to them, and by his Preſence and affable Carriage ſoon appeaſed the Tumult. Nor ought the great Reſolution of the Inhabitants of this City to be paſſed in ſilence, whom neither the Duke of Anjou's Threats, nor his Offers of Pardon, could draw from their Allegiance to their lawful King, or make them forget their true Intereſt, and the Care of their Liberty. The Earl of Donnegal being killed, and our Troops having quitted Fort Montjuich the 25th paſt, the Enemy then turned their Batteries againſt the Town; but the vigorous Reſiſtance they met with obliged them to carry on their Approaches with the utmoſt Regularity: However, firing continually upon the Place with a conſiderable number of Cannon, they had already made two Breaches, one of which was practicable, as the other would ſoon have been, and their Approaches were brought to the Covered-way.

Things were in this Poſture when we arrived. The Earl of Peterborow went on ſhore the ſame Evening with all the Forces that were on board the Fleet, who were a great part of the Night under Arms behind the Breaches, the Enemy having given out, that they would ſtorm the Place. The next Day there was great skirmiſhing between the French and the Miquelets that lay about their Camp, in which the Enemy loſt between 2 and 300 Men, as we were told by Deſerters, who aſſured us at the ſame time, that they were preparing to march off: Upon which Orders were ſent to all Parts of the Country to take Arms, and join the Troops we had at Lerida, Tortoſa, and the Horſe which the Earl of Peterborow had ſent the ſame way, who will have frequent Occaſions to haraſs them at the many Defiles and Rivers they muſt paſs; and they will find it no eaſy matter to get away either to Arragon or France, the whole Country is ſo enraged with the Barbarities they have committed. The Enemy however kept firing with their Cannon: But this Morning about one a Clock they marched off in a manner unexpected, leaving behind them near 200 Braſs Battering Guns, 30 Mortars, a great quantity of Bombs, Shot, Shells, Working Tools, and other Warlike Stores, 10000 Sacks of Corn, above 3000 Barrels of Powder, and all their ſick and wounded Men, whom the Marſhal de Teſſe, by a Letter, recommended to the Earl of Peterborow's Clemency, (and his Excellency has been very generous and indulgent towards them); and, which is moſt remarkable, they have left every thing untouch'd, as if it had been for the uſe of their Friends, and not for their Enemies. They are retired towards the French Frontiers, being purſued by the Miquelets; and no time will be loſt in doing all that is neceſſary to improve this great Advantage. We have an Account, That they had received Advice in the Enemy's Army of the Dutcheſs of Anjou's having left Madrid, and being retired to Pampeluna. We have now here 11 Battalions of Her Majeſty of Great Britain's Troops, beſides other Forces, of which a conſiderable Detachment is ſending towards Girona, where two Dutch Battalions are in Garriſon. The King of Spain has appointed the Count de Noyelles, and Count Uhlefeldt to be Field Marſhals, who are both to receive their Orders from the Earl of Peterborow, his Excellency having a ſuperior Commiſſion.

Mindelheim, May 25. The Emperor having in November laſt erected this Lordſhip into a Principality of the Empire, and conferred the ſame on the Duke of Marlborough; and Her Majeſty having been pleaſed to allow Mr. Stepney, Her Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at the Imperial Court, to take Poſſeſſion thereof in his Highneſs's Name, the Ceremony was performed here in the Town-Hall yeſterday and this day, by the Officers, Magiſtrates, Burghers, and other Subjects of this Principality, to whom Count Konigſegg, one of the Emperor's Privy-Council, and his Firſt Commiſſioner for this Act, declared, that his Imperial Majeſty had transferred on the Duke, in Conſideration of his Important Services, all his Right to the ſaid Principality. In Teſtimony whereof, a Secretary of the Feudal Court, read the Lehn-Brieff, (or Letter of Inveſtiture) and then a Patent, whereby the ſaid Officers and Subjects were firſt diſcharged from the Obedience and Vaſſalage which they ſwore a Year ago to his Imperial Majeſty, upon the Death of Maximilian late Duke of Bavaria; and afterwards were directed to take a new Oath of Homage to the Duke of Marlborough, as Prince of Mindelheim; which was adminiſtred to them accordingly by Mr. Stepney's Order, in the Preſence of Count Konigſegg, and two other Imperial Commiſſioners, Baron Volmar and Baron Imhoff, who had lately the joint Adminiſtration of this Country. The whole Ceremony was performed with a great deal of Decency; and the People in general gave all Demonſtrations of their Satisfaction in being under his Highneſs's Protection.

Hanover, June 4. On the 28th paſt in the Evening my Lord Halifax arrived at Diepenau, where he was welcom'd into the Elector's Territories by the Governor of the Caſtle, who immediately diſpatched an Expreſs hither to notify his Lordſhip's Arrival. Lodgings and a Noble Entertainment were prepared that Evening for his Lordſhip and his Retinue by the Elector's Officers. The next Day his Lordſhip proceeded on his Way to Hanover, and found every where upon the Road Horſes and Carriages in a readineſs for him by the Elector's particular Order. At Stolſteneau the Firſt Gentleman to the Electreſs Dowager waited on his Lordſhip with a Compliment from Her Electoral Highneſs, and entertained him at a very ſplendid Dinner. His Lordſhip arrived late in the Evening at Hanover, and was received at a Houſe prepared for him by a Gentleman of the Bed-Chamber, and another Gentleman of the Court, who acquainted his Lordſhip, they had Orders from the Elector to attend him, and to do the Honours of the Houſe.

On Sunday Morning his Lordſhip had Audience of the Electreſs Dowager, the Elector, the Electoral Prince and Princeſs; and in the Afternoon of the Princeſs the Elector's Daughter, and of Prince Erneſt his Brother. In all which Audiences, beſides the uſual Ceremonies, his Lordſhip received many particular Marks of Diſtinction; and nothing was omitted to let him ſee the great Reſpect that the Elector and Electoreſs, with the whole Electoral Family, pay to Her Majeſty, their Affection and Eſteem for the Engliſh Nation, with their grateful Acknowledgment for what the Queen and Parliament have done towards ſecuring the Succeſſion of their Family to the Crown of England.

From the Duke of Marlborough's Camp at Arſeele, June 7. N. S. On Friday the 4th Inſtant the Army marched from Meerlebeck, and having paſſed the Schelde and the Lys, encamped between Deynſe and Nevelle, where the Magiſtrates of Audenarde came to wait upon my Lord Duke, to deſire his Grace's Protection, and aſſure him of their Fidelity to his Catholick Majeſty King Charles III.

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